

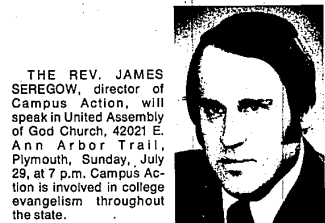
Sherwood Concert Set

The Sherwood Singers, a gospel musical group from Wyoming, Mich., will sing Sunday, July 29, at 10:45 a.m. in the Bethel Missionary Assembly of God.

Kenwood VBS Opens July 30

"We Look to Jesus" is the theme for vacation Bible School at the Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Meridian, Livonia, this summer. It will be held from July 30 to Aug. 3.

There will be classes from 9 to 11:30 a.m. for children in



THE REV. JAMES SEREGOW, director of Campus Action, will speak in United Assembly of God Church, 42021 E. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, Sunday, July 29, at 7 p.m. Campus Action is involved in college evangelism throughout the state.

kindergarten through sixth grade. Teenagers, from seventh through 12 grades, will meet evenings from 7 to 10. The Rev. David Stokes, minister of the Church of Christ in Edon, Ohio, will assist at the school. Everyone interested is invited.

EASTERN ORTHODOX
ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH
23300 West 10th Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Vespers - Saturday 6:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy - Sunday 9:00 a.m.
"All Services in English"

PRESBYTERIAN
PLYMOUTH
First Presbyterian Church
701 Church St.
Plymouth, Mich. 48150
Pastor: Philip Rogers
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Children's Church - 10:30 a.m.

ST. MARK'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
26701 Joy Rd. (E of Intersect)
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Pastor: Dr. Paul G. Miller
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
People Caring For People
Worship Celebration and Church School
10:00 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Paul G. Miller
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHRIST THE KING
3300 Farmington Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Pastor: Rev. John A. Root
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
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Religion Update

Rev. Lester Kinsolving's

"Christianity and pro football are very compatible." - Tom Landry, Head Coach, Dallas Cowboys

According to the Washington Star News religion writer Bill Willoughby:

"Skinner shows them the locker room Jesus, the man with his hand on his chest and sweat on his brow and dirt under his fingernails. The man who needs a deodorant."

This theology of persuasion, as endorsed by such eminent jocks, was accentuated by a nationally televised Redskins prayer meeting in Thanksgiving to God after the triumph of Landry's Cowboys. (There was no such telecast, however, when the Skins were subsequently swallowed by the Dolphins in Miami in the Super Bowl.)

Yet this muscular faith very nearly came apart in December. For a flanker back of one of these pro football coaches (Lance Alworth of the Cowboys) virtually put out of the game a linebacker (Redskin Jack Pardee) belonging to the other - in what Brother Allen angrily charged was an illegal crack-back block de-

signed and repeatedly ordered by Brother Landry. The holy griffin heated further as Linebacker Pardee growled:

"That's what comes from the all-righteous Tom Landry who is holier than thou and all gods."

In response, Coach Landry announced "We didn't do anything illegal."

But meanwhile there was an additional detraction of the carefully nurtured aura of sanctified stadium turf. For the dean of St. Louis University's divinity school, Jesuit Father William J. Sullivan, writing in the national Jesuit magazine America, described: "The pro football mania . . . the fall war games conducted by the mercenaries of the National Football League."

What an increasing number of critics describe as "America's new religion," is, writes Father Sullivan, "A human demolition derby . . . a business that masquerades as a sport."

Father Sullivan quotes Joe Namath's description of pro football's image ("brutality") as well as Los Angeles Ram Merlin Olsen's statement: "By the end of the game, you're an animal."

Despite this, pro football will probably play religion for all it is worth this fall - probably because this kind of far-fetched holiness is bought by many - including those simple enough to rationalize that watching a team with a locker-room Jesus is a sufficient surrogate for worship at one's church or synagogue.

Fortunately, college football appears to be outgrowing this shouldered religion, as indicated by the statement of Notre Dame's Ara Parseghian: "A football game is certainly not a religion."

Churches of the area cordially invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is conducted at the same hour as church, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

CHURCH OF CHRIST (Christian)
MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
34575 Five Mile Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Bible School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Pastor: Mark McGilvrey

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
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FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
30000 Five Mile Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Pastor: Rev. Jerry Stroud
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
39020 Five Mile Rd.
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Pastor: Fred Balke
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
Middlebelt at 8 Mile Rd.
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Pastor: W. F. Rutherford
Worship - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

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Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Mark's 23 And A Senior Pastor

By MARGARET MILLER
"I'm really not much of a talker," insists a young man who has to be one of the youngest senior ministers you can find in or out of Observant.

But Mark McGilvrey, who turned 23 the Sunday after he was named officially by the congregation of Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia, admits he does have a few things to say on the first day of each week.

"I talk myself out then," he grins, "and then listen for the rest of the week so I can lay it on them again."

The youthful preacher was called to head the church, located at 35475 Five Mile, after a congregational vote July 8.

He had been filling the job of senior minister since March, when Max Copeland left to accept another call. McGilvrey came to Memorial in May of 1972 as associate minister.

The vote for the action was "overwhelming," the church's parish bulletin reported, and the pastor responded in his weekly column, "Mark's Remarks."

"I want to thank you for the confidence you have shown in me . . . I know very well I cannot lead Memorial on my own strength but rely on the strength and guidance of the Lord to see me through."

He sees as a major task in the coming months and years adding more members to the roll of 350 and bringing more people to worship in the sanctuary that seats 400.

Memorial conducts regular house-to-house canvasses in the neighborhood, but McGilvrey is convinced that "basically any church's membership increase comes when people in the congregation get excited about their faith."

"I'm trying to get the people sold on salvation - our church is founded on the idea that every person is a minister."

McGilvrey has launched a search for an associate minister for the congregation, consisting mainly of members a generation older than he.

"There's a lot to be done here," he said. "I started working with the young people, but haven't been able to do as much as is needed in that area."

"And I haven't really had a full day off since March left."

Mark McGilvrey, son of a preacher, was born in North Carolina and grew up in Juliet, Ill.

He has a bachelor's degree from Cincinnati Bible Seminary and has completed plenty of credits toward a master's degree but no time to write a thesis.

His training and his personal beliefs lead him to a fundamental position that "if the Bible says it, I believe it."

From these ideas sprang many churches, and as time has passed they have remained separate, cooperating mainly in the establishment of colleges such as Great Lakes Bible College in this area.

"Michigan isn't exactly a strong area for our churches," McGilvrey added. "There are 17 churches of Christ in the Detroit metropolitan area - in the Cincinnati area, with a smaller population, there are more than 200."

The brotherhood, he added, dates back to the early 1800s when several men in this country began preaching the idea of getting back to the church of the New Testament.

Churches of Christ, McGilvrey pointed out, form a brotherhood rather than a denomination, because each congregation is an entity in itself.

"We have no creed, no specific beliefs," he said. "Each congregation is its own boss and we hope that people can come to God through the Bible."

The brotherhood, he added, dates back to the early 1800s when several men in this country began preaching the idea of getting back to the church of the New Testament.



YOUTHFUL SENIOR MINISTER Mark McGilvrey finds his faith in the Bible. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

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